Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Fig. 8 shows the schematic representation of comparison in amino acid sequence of extracellular domain of the human Fas with other members of the NGFR/TNFR family. (hFAS = SEQ ID NO: 3, hTNRF1 = SEQ ID NO: 4, hTNFR2 = SEQ ID NO: 5, hNGFR = SEQ ID NO: 6, hCD40 = SEQ ID NO: 7, rOX40 = SEQ ID NO: 8)--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Fig. 9 shows the comparative representation of the amino acid sequences of the cytoplasmic domains of the Fas (SEQ ID NO: 10), TNF receptor type I (SEQ ID NO: 11), and CD40 (SEQ ID NO: 9).--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--With the current technical level in this field of science, it will be easy to introduce mutation such as deletions, additions, insertions and/or substitutions to the amino acid sequence without changing fundamental properties (e.g. physical properties, physiological or biological activity, immunological activity, etc.) of the proteins. For instance, substitution of a hydrophobic amino acid residue with other hydrophobic amino acid residue, or of amino

acid residue having positive electric charge with other amino acid residue having positive electric charge, mutual substitution among Glu and Asp or Lys, His and Arg, substitution among Ile, Val, Met and Leu groups, substitution among Gly, Ala, Ser and Cys groups, and substitution among Trp, Tyr and Phe groups may be predicted. For easy purification of the protiens of the present invention, furthermore, other proteins such as β-galactosidase of Escherichia coli or mouse IgG Fc fragment may be added to the N-terminal side or/and the C-terminal side of the proteins by the genetic engineering method, or the amino acid sequence may be partly cleaved or substituted by the similar method in order to more deeply analyze the function of the proteins, as can easily be contrived by people skilled in the art. Therefore, such human Fas antigen amino acid mutants are also encompassed by the present invention. For instance, soluble Fas antigens indicated by amino acids Nos. 1 to 157, as shown in Figure 1, are preferred examples of such mutants.--

Please delete pages 39-49 of the specification containing the original Sequence Listing as filed on June 21, 2001. Please renumber the remaining pages of the specification, beginning with the claims, consecutively from page 39. Please insert the Substitute Sequence Listing enclosed herewith immediately after the abstract.